

**First Presbyterian Church
of Ithaca, Michigan**

Blessed are those who mourn...



...for they will be comforted

**Sunday, May 12, 2019
10:30am**

Service for the Lord's Day
4th Sunday of Easter
Mother's Day

May 12, 2019

10:30am

** indicates that the congregation may stand as they are able.
Bold text indicates where the congregation joins in unison.*

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude & Ringing of the Bell

Welcome & Announcements

***Call to Worship** (responsive)

We've come to worship God,

Who loved us before we were yet born,

Who knows us even better than we know ourselves,

Whose presence never leaves us,

And whose love never ceases,

This is our God.

***Opening Prayer**

Almighty God, you sent Jesus, our good shepherd, to gather us together. May we not wander from his flock, but follow wherever he leads us, listening for his voice and staying near him, until we are safely in your fold, to live with you forever; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

***Hymn #487** (blue) *When Morning Gilds the Sky*

Call to Confession

The Spirit of God helps us in our weakness, interceding with sighs too deep for words. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We overlook the poor and the hungry, and pass by those who mourn; we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed, and indifferent to calls for peace; we despise the weak, and abuse the earth you made. Forgive us, God of mercy. Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord. Amen.

Silent Confession

Sung Response

Alleluia

Alleluia, alleluia, Alleluia, alleluia

Alleluia, alleluia, Alleluia, alleluia

Assurance of Pardon

Our righteousness is found in Christ alone, a gift of God by faith, Beloved people of God, believe the good news: through the grace of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God. Amen.

***Gloria Patri**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,

World without end. Amen. Amen.

***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.
The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Exchange words of peace and reconciliation with one another.

***Sung Response**

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!

Halle, halle, hallelujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Halle, halle, hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

Prayer of Illumination

Overwhelm us with Your Spirit, O God, that the words we hear will speak to our hearts as Your Word, made known to us in Christ the Lord. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Acts 9:36-42

Anthem

Amazing Grace

Schrader

Chancel Choir

Scripture Reading

Romans 7:21-25

Sermon

Pastor Christina

***Hymn #467 (blue)**

How Great Thou Art

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and glory, forever. Amen.

Sung Response

Christ, Be Our Light

***Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine in the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine on your church, gathered today.***

Morning Offering/Offertory

***Doxology**

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

***Prayer of Dedication (unison)**

God of grace, it is our delight and our devotion to give these gifts to you. All we are and all we have are yours alone. Accept this joyful offering as a token of our abiding love: use it to bring peace, justice and comfort to all the world, Amen.

WE GO OUT IN GOD'S NAME

*A Litany for Mother's Day (responsive)

Mothers come in many different forms,
and today we celebrate them all!

Thank God for mothers!

Everyone here is either a son or a daughter.

Thank God for my mother!

For those women who have joined God in Heaven
and whom we miss dearly here on earth.

Thank God for the mothers of the past.

For every woman who is working day and night
to raise her children right now.

Thank God for the mothers of today.

For all the women who are expecting, but aren't quite mothers yet!

Thank God for the soon-to-be-mothers.

For the women who took in others' children
through adoption and foster care.

Thank God for the mothers with hearts so big.

For those women who have lost a child to death and must carry on.

Thank God for the mothers who are so strong.

For all the women who have desperately wanted to have children of
their own, but chose instead to mother everyone else.

Thank God for the mothers in spirit.

We thank you, Lord, for the women
who have influenced our lives in so many ways.

We pray that we will honor them in everything we do. Amen.

*Hymn (insert)

God of the Women

*Benediction

*Postlude

God of the Women



1. God of the wom - en who an - swered your call,
2. God of the wom - en who walked Je - sus' Way,
3. God of the wom - en long put to the test,
4. God of the wom - en who ran from the tomb,
5. O God of Poe - be and min - is - ters all,



trust - ing your pro - mis - es, giv - ing their all,
giv - ing their re - sourc - es, learn - ing to pray,
left out of stor - ies, for - got - ten, op - pressed,
prayed with the oth - ers in that up - per room,
may we be joy - ful in an - swering your call.



wom - en like Sar - ah and Han - nah and Ruth,
Ma - ry, Jo - an - na, Su - san - na, and more,
qui - et - ly ask - ing: "Who smiled at my birth?"
then felt your Spir - it on Pen - te - cost Day,
Give us the strength of your Spir - it so near



give us their cour - age to live in your truth.
may we give free - ly as they did be - fore.
In Je - sus' dy - ing you show us our worth.
may we so glad - ly pro - claim you to - day.
that we may share - in your min - is - try here.

Today's Scripture Readings

Acts 9:36-42

In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas). Her life overflowed with good works and compassionate acts on behalf of those in need. About that time, though, she became so ill that she died. After they washed her body, they laid her in an upstairs room. Since Lydda was near Joppa, when the disciples heard that Peter was there, they sent two people to Peter. They urged, "Please come right away!" Peter went with them. Upon his arrival, he was taken to the upstairs room. All the widows stood beside him, crying as they showed the tunics and other clothing Dorcas made when she was alive. Peter sent everyone out of the room, then knelt and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up!" She opened her eyes, saw Peter, and sat up. He gave her his hand and raised her up. Then he called God's holy people, including the widows, and presented her alive to them. The news spread throughout Joppa, and many put their faith in the Lord.

Romans 7:21-25

So I find that, as a rule, when I want to do what is good, evil is right there with me. I gladly agree with the Law on the inside, but I see a different law at work in my body. It wages a war against the law of my mind and takes me prisoner with the law of sin that is in my body. I'm a miserable human being. Who will deliver me from this dead corpse? Thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then I'm a slave to God's Law in my mind, but I'm a slave to sin's law in my body.

Prayer List:

Loving God, we lift the following in prayer to You. Hold these people and situations in Your hands, and in them, may Your will be done. Amen.

Concerns:

Kathy Francis; Vickie Jackson; Bonnie Smith; Shelly Sanders; Sally Nester; Garret Miniard; Jim Elliott; Barb Elliott; Lois Palmer; Al Bartholomew; Tina Castillo and her mom, Gayle; Jan Felton; The Rev. George Gillette; Mackenzie Brown; Susie Page; Pat MacDonald; Brenda Bollman; Rhonda Handley; Geneva Foster; Soulemayne Galadi, serving in the Congo; Those who make decisions that affect others; Those living with mental illness; Our military and veterans; Our police, fire, and other emergency responders; Our country; Travelling mercies;

Thanksgivings:

Miracles and healing mercies granted; Three expected grand-babies in the church family this year; Our church family; The church office volunteers; New jobs and the opportunities that come with them; For birthdays and anniversaries; For those who help others in crisis; For the angels in our church family

Continuing Prayers:

John & Nancy Allen; Penny Arnold; Marian Bouchey; Randy Jenison; Christina Latoski & family; Barb Pharr; Karen Rozen; Shelly & Jamie Sanders; Randy Smith, David Thum; Shelley Zamarron & family

If you would like someone added to the prayer list and announced during the Prayers of the People, please contact the church office or speak to Pastor Christina.

Happening this Week:

- Men's Breakfast – Tuesday, 8:30am – Hearthstone Oven
- Team Meetings – Tuesday, 7:00pm – Fireplace Room
- Food Pantry – Wednesday, 9:30am – Food Pantry
- Reed City Trip – Friday, 11:00am – Leave from Parking Lot

Next Week's Volunteers – May 19, 2019:

- Vickie Thum, Liturgist
- Brad & Vickie Thum, Greeters
- Cynthia Smith & Joy Heinlein, Ushers
- _____, Coffee Hour
- Tom Heinlein & Dale Nester, Counters

Mission and Fellowship Silent Auction

Today is your last chance to up the ante on your auction item bids! Top bids have been noted. The proceeds of the silent auction will go toward the Good Samaritan Fund. Bids are secret, and at the end of the auction, we will notify the highest bidders of their purchases. See Joy Heinlein for more details!

By the Numbers...

May 5, 2019

Attendance: 60

Offering: \$2,959



*The music printed in this bulletin is covered under CCLI #11388530.
Some of the prayers and responsive readings came from the Book of
Common Worship from the Office of the General Assembly.*

A Church Family Outing to Reed City, Michigan!

Friday, May 17, 2019

leaving the church at 11:00am

Itinerary:

- depart FPC at 11:00am
- arrive in Reed City around 12:30pm
- Lunch at Seven Slot Grille
- Tour of the Old Rugged Cross Museum
- Visit around Pastor's Old Haunts
- Ice Cream at the Dairy Depot
- possible stop at the Paris Fish Hatchery

Sign up at the church!



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To learn more about our congregation, visit our website:

www.ithacapres.org

and our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/ithacapres

Leading Worship Today:

The Rev. Christina L. Jensen, Pastor

Cynthia Smith, Liturgist

Bob Crist, Music Director

Cynthia Smith & Joy Heinlein, Greeters

Cynthia Smith & Joy Heinlein, Ushers

Tom Heinlein & Vickie Thum, Counters

Staff:

The Rev. Christina L. Jensen, Pastor

Bob Crist, Music Director

Chris Shemes, Treasurer

Shelley Zamarron, Custodian



The First Presbyterian Church of Ithaca, Michigan, is a congregation of the Presbytery of Lake Huron of the Presbyterian Church (USA).